

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President,

We respectfully call to your attention the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) project, a more than \$5 billion, 600-mile, privately funded natural gas pipeline project that is currently under review by several federal departments. For our citizens and our future economic growth, we have confidence this transformative project will result in substantial benefits to the general welfare and value to the Nation as called for in your Executive Order on Expediting Environmental Reviews and Approvals for High Priority Infrastructure Projects.

Specifically, this project will deliver natural gas produced in West Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and elsewhere to areas of Virginia and North Carolina where supply is short. The gas to be carried by ACP is urgently needed to heat homes, generate electricity, support the region's numerous military bases, and fuel manufacturing, thus critical to our energy independence and national security. End-use customers have committed to buy more than 90 percent of the pipeline's capacity.

This private investment by our home-state companies will accelerate the growth of manufacturing, create thousands of jobs, fuel cleaner electric power generation and increase consumer purchasing power with lower energy costs. All of these benefits can be realized only if the federal permitting process for natural gas transmission pipeline is modernized and responsive to market demands.

This project will produce unprecedented economic and environmental benefits. It will support more than 7,200 jobs during construction for pipefitters, welders and other skilled craft labor and 2,000 ongoing jobs once in operation. The Atlantic Coast Pipeline will spur billions of dollars in economic activity and local tax revenue all along the project route with the ability for new and existing manufacturing to tap into the line.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), as the lead federal agency, is diligently following federal rules and regulations to evaluate the project's purpose, need and environmental impacts. The Commission anticipates final agency action in September, 2017 with permission to begin construction shortly thereafter. Our collective concerns are that this critical schedule is in jeopardy without concurrent reviews and approvals by the Department of Interior, the Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Army.

We respectfully request your attention to this vital energy infrastructure project by directing your team at these departments to take decisive action to consult with the project sponsors and promptly fulfill their regulatory requirements in conjunction with the existing FERC schedule.

Sincerely,

Governor Terrence R. McAuliffe
Commonwealth of Virginia

Governor James Justice
State of West Virginia

Governor Roy Cooper
State of North Carolina